[8th September 1928

Central Record Office

Establishment list of the Central Record office.

* 243 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to lay on the table a full list of the establishment in the Madras Curator of Records Office that was allowed to the predecessors of the late Mr. Cotton with the qualifications, duties and salaries of each one of the incumbents and also a complete list of the incumbents appointed during and after the time of Mr. Cotton and serving at present with their qualifications, duties and salaries?

A.—The Government have not the information and do not consider that the labour which would be involved in collecting it would be justified.

Duties of the Curator of the Central Record office.

* 244 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the translation of Ananda Ranga Pillai's diary has been completed;

(*b*) if so, when was the work completed and what are the fresh duties assigned to and performed by the Curator ever since that date, apart from the editing of the transcripts of the old manuscript records;

(*c*) whether the Government have ever considered the fact that a whole-time officer as Curator is not required for carrying on the work of the Record Office; and

(*d*) whether the Government have considered the feasibility of leaving the work of the Record Office publications to be carried on under the supervision and guidance of a small local committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission with the Collector of Madras, University Professors of History and Economics and one or two experts in research and knowledge of records as members of the Committee and the ordinary duties of the Record Office being left in charge of a Superintendent?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Orders have been given to the Press for issue of the last volume on 27th August 1928.

The Curator has not been in charge of the translation and the question of assigning to the Curator any fresh duties does not therefore arise.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) No.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib:—"May I know whether it is a fact that the Curator has no other duties as a Curator beyond passing and initialling the proofs placed before him by four of his clerks in the office?

The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir:—"He has many other duties, Sir."